## **RESOLUTION 2020-20**

## RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF APPLICABLE WAIVERS PURSUANT TO PIH NOTICE 2020-05

WHEREAS, On January 31, 2020, Secretary of Health and Humans Services Alex M. Azar, ii, declared a public emergency for the United States to aid the nation's healthcare community in responding to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19). On March 9, under Executive order 103, Governor Murphy declared a State of Emergency and a Public Health Emergency, further extended by Executive Order 119. On March 13, 2020, President Trump declared the COVID-19 pandemic a national emergency; and

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic presents significant challenges for HUD and the Housing Authority County of Morris to continue to carry out its fundamental mission to provide decent, safe and sanitary affordable housing for low income families, senior citizens and persons with disabilities.

WHEREAS, Program operations have been severely impacted as we comply with critically important advisories and directives from public health professionals, including social distancing and other preventive practices that will slow the spread of COVID-19 and reduce the risk of exposure; and

WHEREAS, On March 27, 2020, President Trump signed the CARES Act into law, further providing HUD with broad authority, in the context of the current public health emergency to waive statutes and regulations (except for requirements related to fair housing, non, discrimination, labor standards, and the environment) for the Public Housing and HCV programs, as outlined in HUD PIH Notice 2020-5, published on April 10, 2020, and

WHEREAS, HUD is exercising this authority to provide PHA's with flexibility to adjust program practices where necessary to prioritize mission critical functions when normal operations are restricted and severely constrained, further prevent the spread of COVID-19 and mitigate the health risks posed by COVID-19 to PHA Staff, families, landlords, and their communities at large.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners authorizes the Executive Director to apply for and implement any or all waivers and or alternative requirements deemed appropriate and necessary to carry on with critical functions of the authority, as outlined on the attached summary of Public Housing and HCV Waivers and Alternative Requirements issued by HUD.

Kelly A. Stephens, Director/Secretary

Date Adopted